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code generation component 102 of the code generation application, at least two such rows in the table that are mutually as different as possible. The more the examples differ from each other, the fewer examples there are needed in order to achieve the desired extraction result. This means that as many columns as possible in the chosen exemplary rows should contain different information.--

In the Claims:

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- 2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising the step of modifying the extracted data areas so as to be uniform in format.
- 3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least two exemplary cases that are pointed out each have a structure and a content, and where the structure of each of the at least two exemplary cases is identical, but the content is different.

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9. (Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein in order to generate a set of rules, the method comprises the steps of:

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- marking the longest of the selected, tokenized examples as a regular expression,
- marking the next longest of the selected, tokenized examples as an exemplary expression and
- 7 comparing the regular expression with the exemplary expression in question.